ADEQ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality | Drinking Water | Federal Water Standards Exceedance Report

What is an exceedance ?

An exceedance is when the monitoring level(s) are above Federal Drinking Water Quality Standards for that contaminate. When a water system has an exceedance the system will issue a public notice (PN) explaining what the health risks are and how to reduce these risks.
(See page 3 of this PDF to view PN)

Following is list of Corrective Action statuses to help explain what ADEQ and/or water system are doing to resolve the issue.

Corrective Action Status	Description
ADEQ Providing Compliance/Technical Assistance	ADEQ is assisting facility with the legal and/or technical requirements in order to be in compliance with state and federal regulations.
ADEQ/Facility Collecting Additional Samples	ADEQ or Facility are collecting additional samples to determine if the exceedance is a recurring event or a single event.
Facility Notified of Potential Deficiencies	ADEQ has informed facility that they have an exceedance of a permit limit or surface water standard (i.e. myDEQ Report and/or Phone call/email)
Facility Notified of Alleged Violations	Facility has received a Notice of Violation or Notice of Opportunity to Correct Deficiencies from ADEQ or delegated authority for exceeding a permit limit or surface water standard.
ADEQ/Facility Agree Upon Path Forward	ADEQ and Facility have entered into a formal agreement which puts them on a path to return to compliance (i.e. Consent Order or Consent Judgment)
Facility Improvement in Process	A structural, treatment, and/or operational improvement is currently being implemented at facility.
Compliance/Technical Assistance Was Unsuccessful	Elevating the issue to ADEQ Leadership and the Water System, to seek additional Compliance/ Technical Assistance with the goal help the water system return-to-compliance with state and federal regulations.

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ADEQ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Data Pull Date: 12/12/2018

Facility: ST. Augustine Catholic High School

County	PWS #	Name	Contaminant	Source	Status
PIMA	AZ0420349	ST AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL	LCR	Exceeds Rule Limit	ADEQ/Facility Collecting Additional Samples

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

St. Augustine Catholic High School is concerned about lead in your drinking water. Although most homes have very low levels of lead in their drinking water, some homes in the community have lead levels above the EPA action level of 15 parts per billion
(ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). Under Federal law we are required to have a program in place to minimize lead in your drinking water

This brochure also explains the simple steps you can take to protect yourself by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water.

ADEQ requires public water systems that exceed the lead action level to provide this notification to consumers. Lead is a health concern and is commonly found in the environment; most commonly in lead based paint. Lead can also be found in water, though at much lower levels. To monitor lead levels at the customers' faucets, Clay Springs DWID tests tap water in homes that are most likely to have lead. These homes are usually older homes that may have lead service connections or lead solder, and they must be tested after water has been sitting overnight. The EPA rule requires that 90% of these worst case samples must have lead levels below the Action Level of 15 ppb.

During the 2018 sampling period, St. Augustine Catholic High School found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Please read this information closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child may receive lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

SOURCES OF LEAD

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing or shoes). Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN YOUR WATER

Fresh water is better than stale: If your water has been sitting for several hours, run the water until it is consistently cold - usually about 15-30 seconds – before drinking or cooking with it. This flushes water which may contain lead from the pipes.

Use cold, fresh water for cooking and preparing baby formula: Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.

Test your home for lead: The only way to determine the level of lead in drinking water at your home is to have the water tested by a state certified laboratory.

Test your child for lead: Contact your local health department or your local health care provider to find out how you can get your child tested. A blood lead level test is the only way to know if your child is being exposed to lead. Contact AZDHS Public Health Prevention (602) 542-1025 for more information.

Identify if your plumbing fixtures contain lead: New brass faucets or other plumbing fixtures, including those labeled "lead-free", may contribute lead to drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in tap water, you should consider buying a low-lead or no-lead fixture. Visit the NSF site at ***www.nsf.org***.

Consider using a filter: If your water contains lead, you may want to consider using a filter. Make sure the filter you are considering removes lead – not all filters do. Be sure to replace filters in accordance with manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. Contact the National Sanitation Foundation at 1-800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for more information on water filters. Also, if you are considering using bottled water, note that it may cost up to 1,000 times more than tap water.

Simply flushing your tap, as described above, is usually a cheaper, equally effective alternative.

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

St. Augustine Catholic High School is concerned about lead in your drinking water. **Additional testing for lead will be taken to verify and monitor the lead levels.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call us at 520-751-8300 to find out what we are doing about lead in the drinking water. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at **www.epa.gov/lead,** or contact your health care provider.

St. Augustine Catholic High School
520-751-8300

Lead in Drinking Water

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Public Education

Click to Return to the My Community Drinking Water Map